

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for an automatic conferencing service, the apparatus comprising:  
5 a service logic execution environment in a telecommunications service network; and

automatic conferencing service running in the service logic execution environment.

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2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein modules of the automatic conferencing service include a conference coordination service logic program.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the automatic conferencing service 15 modules further include an HTTP interface.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the HTTP interface comprises an HTTP server plug-in module and an HTTP dispatcher module.

- 20 5. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the automatic conferencing service modules further include an extensible markup language parser.

6. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the automatic conferencing service 25 modules further include a notification service logic program.

7. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the automatic conferencing service modules further include a home location register service logic program.

- 30 8. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the automatic conferencing service modules further include a billing service logic program.

9. A method of scheduling an automatic conference, the method comprising:

reception of a conference request, including conference information specified by a user, by an automatic conferencing service running in a service logic execution environment within a telecommunications network;

5 registration of the conference by the automatic conferencing service; and notification of attendees of the conference by the automatic conferencing service.

10 10. The method of claim 9, wherein a user specifies the conference information by way of a web page hosted by web server software on an applications server coupled to the telecommunication network.

15 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the conference information includes time and attendee information, and wherein extensible markup language is used to communicate the conference information from the applications server to the automatic conferencing service.

20 12. The method of claim 9, wherein a user specifies the conference information using a phone to access an interactive voice response interface to the automatic conferencing service.

25 13. The method of claim 9 further comprising setting timers for the conference by the automatic conferencing service.

14. The method of claim 9 further comprising determination of an online status of a communication device of an attendee.

30 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the online status determination is accomplished by way of a lookup to a home location register database.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein an attendee is notified by way of electronic mail.

17. The method of claim 9, wherein an attendee is notified by way of an SMS message.

18. The method of claim 9, wherein an attendee is notified by way of an  
5 instant message.

19. The method of claim 9 further comprising accessing a directory by the automatic conferencing service to obtain a preference profile for an attendee.

10 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the directory is accessed using a lightweight directory access protocol interface.

15 21.. A telecommunications system configured to schedule an automatic conference, the system comprising:  
means for receiving a conference request, including conference information specified by a user, by an automatic conferencing service running in a service logic execution environment within a telecommunications network; and  
20 means for notifying attendees of the conference by the automatic conferencing service.